[*Translation*]

Development of Tourism in U.P.

1955. SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA: Will the Minister of CIVIAL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scheme is under the consideration of the Government to promote religious places in Uttar Pradesh from the tourism point of view;

(b) if so, the action taken so far by the Government in this regard; and

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHIR MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Development of tourist infrastructure at various places of pilgrimage is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. However, the Central Department of Tourism extends financial assistance on specific projects/schemes based on their merit, availability of funds and interest priorities. In addition to this, the Central Government have given Income exemption on 50% of the income and full exemption from expenditure Tax for a period of 10 years for hotels to be constructed at places of pilgrimage.

(b) and (c). The Central Department of Tourism interalia has provided assistance for the augmentation of tourist facilities at places of pilgrimage which include Allahabad, Ayodhya, Haridwar, Varanasi, Brindavan, Mathura, etc. Further, a project for strengthening of tourist Infrastructural facilities at important Buddhist centres in the State is also under implementation.

Encroachment of Railways land

1956. SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any major project for the utilisation of the unused railway land is under consideration of the Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b). Most of the railway land lying vacant at present is required for Railways' future developmental works. It is proposed to explore the feasibility of commercially exploiting space over railway land and land presently lying vacant, without obstructing the use of the land by Railways when required, with a view to generating additional resources for Railways' developmental projects.

[*English*]

Charging of Registration Fees

1957. DR. C. SILVERA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any directives have been issued to all schools not to charge registration fee;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures taken to ensure its compliance?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

Health of Children

1958. DR. C. SILVERA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state: